

Leicester, Massachusetts,
April 12. 1859.

Dear Mr. Webb,

Accompanying this is a statement of a business nature respecting Liberator subscribers, &c. - Let me thank you for your letter of the 10th March. I did not mean to be understood exactly as proposing an A. S. League in Gr. Britain, but rather as expressing the wish that it were feasible, & suggesting some names as appropriate members of it; - of course I did not know what time, or other aid, they could devote to such an Association, - on all such points, as well as their fitness in other respects, you are far better able to judge. I should not have included Edw. Baines's name in the list, had I known what I have since learned of his intimacy with, & endorsement of, such a wolf in sheep's clothing as Dr. Pomeroy. It may be that Dr. P. has deceived him, but in a man in Mr. Baines's position, & with his knowledge & means of knowledge of the position & course of the American Foreign Mission Board, the fact of ^{being so deceived} ~~such deception~~ & misled is as unpardonable as a wilful dereliction, I do not mean, either, to judge him hastily. I hope he yet may come straight, tho', as you say, a man who 'lives by an orthodox reputation', or who rates his orthodoxy above humanity, & principle, is never of sure reliability. Your list of names (as I had given them), with your comments attached, is very interesting to me - in several instances furnishing information I had not, & was glad to get,

One of the list, P. P. Carpenter, is now in this country, & has been for many months - has not yet been to Boston, but expected about this time. Your account of your introduction to him is amusing enough. I think Mr. Robson's statement to you about Francis Bishop does him injustice. We regard him as having been very faithful to the A.S. cause, while in this country. I cannot say that he actually spoke in any of our public meetings, but he did what I believe was a more difficult duty, in his circumstances, - he lifted up his voice against Slavery, by a very decided testimony to its sinfulness, & the duty of Christians to act against it, in a public meeting of Unitarians, ^{assembled} from all parts of the country in the city of Baltimore, (slaveholding & intensely pro-slavery), and that too, when, if my memory serves me, not a ^{american} single Unitarian minister, even of Massachusetts, could be found to commit such a breach against good taste and good manners! It was a "thou art the man" speech, delivered indeed in Bishop's kind, but yet manly & unmistakable way. I have been very often sorry, I acknowledge, to perceive how he has allowed himself to drop out of all connexion with the cause, & recognition of it, since soon after his return to England. He was, by Abolitionists & their enemies, unanimously adjudged a sound & honest Anti-Slavery man, while here.

I am very sorry to hear of your daughter's illness. The disease is one greatly dreaded here. I hope she is better.

It has gone very hard with many young persons here,
this winter & spring. — George Thompson's
case is indeed a very painful one. A great
many persons became ardently attached to him, on
his first visit to this country — very many felt they
owed their Antislavery birth & life to him. They have
cherished his memory & his friendship, deeply. On
his 2^d visit, the impression was renewed — perhaps
not deepened, but the old elements of character
appeared again unchanged, except as ^{time} ~~age~~ changes
them, and much enthusiasm was re-kindled.
His faults are conspicuous, and his carelessness
about money was noticeable. The fact of family
improvidence was also extensively known. Let the
reasons for it, however, be what they may, the fact
of an old & trusted friend's having fallen into
straits & privation, always appeals to the sympathies
of such as can help him. It was many months
that nobody here had heard from him; on my cousin
J. J. May's, going abroad, he was ~~so~~ requested by
Garrison to go & see G. T. & get the truth of his
circumstances. Mr. M.'s own feelings, & personal regard
for G. T., would have led him to find G. T. at any
rate, — but he might not so minutely have inquired
into his circumstances. His report, — in a long letter
to Garrison, — was of such a nature as to set G. & others to
work at once to make up a little purse to relieve
present necessities, & give him a small fund for the future.

The effort has been unexpectedly successful —
 the sum of \$1000. ^{and a great part of it in small sums —} having been nearly, if not quite, raised
 of which \$500. have already been sent. — I am the
 more particular on this point, having last evening
 rec^d. a letter from Eliza Wigham, wherein she makes
 mention of this matter, & fears the American friends have
 acted under misapprehension of the facts. — Mr. May was
 naturally (as a stranger) unable to institute any inquiry
 into the correctness of Mr. T.'s impressions & representation
 and of course it was a one-sided view. Yet the facts, (as
 they appeared clearly to be,) which Mr. M. presented, seemed
 to demand action at once from those who owed so large
 a debt, as the American Abolitionists owe to Geo. Thompson.

I got into some trouble, with Mrs. Chapman, owing
 to the publication in the Chandler Advocate, of my letter as
 the 25th Subsⁿ Anniversary. I did not expect you would
 publish ^{it}, — at least, not without many erasures & omissions.
 I would not have indulged ^{in the paper,} in any such pleasantries about
 Mr. C. and the Meeting, as I did (pardonably enough) in
 a private note to you. I meant to give you the information
 from which you could make up a paragraph that might
 be useful to Advocate readers. — But Mrs. C.'s ideas of
 the cause are difficult of reception, & even of comprehen-
 sion, often, to most of us, and I am not greatly trou-
 bled. But I would have preferred, on my own account, not to
 have had that letter appear verbatim. — My time is expiring
 and I must stop. I have not yet heard a word from my boy
 on his long voyage. Hope you got C. K. W.'s article on Dr. Pomeroy. —

Give my best regards to Sarah Remond. We are delighted to hear of her success. My respects also to Mr. Wells
 & Mr. Smith & Mr. Willard.